

Claims

1. An applicator for creating a lesion in tissue, the applicator comprising:

- a first rigid or semi-rigid support member;

- a first compliant material coupled to said first support member;

- a first passage in communication with said first compliant material for infusing a medium to the compliant material coupled to the first support member; and

- at least one electrode for conducting energy to the tissue.

2. The applicator according to Claim 1, further comprising:

- a second rigid or semi-rigid support member;

- a second compliant material coupled to said first support member; and

- a second passage in communication with said second compliant material for infusing a medium to the

compliant material coupled to the second support member.

3. The applicator according to Claim 2, wherein said first and second support members are fixed relative to one another.
4. The applicator according to Claim 2 wherein said at least one of said first and second support members is operative to articulate relative to the other.
5. The applicator according to Claim 2 wherein said first and second support members are located such that said each of the first and second compliant materials extends in the direction of the other.
6. The applicator according to Claim 2, further comprising at least one reflector operative to reflect and or focus incident energy located on one of said first and second support members.
7. The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein said electrode is located on the surface of said first compliant material.

8. The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein said electrode is integrated into the surface of said first compliant material.
9. The applicator according to Claim 1, further comprising a third passage in communication with said first compliant material, which together with said first passage provides for the circulation of said medium.
10. The applicator according to Claim 2, further comprising a fourth passage in communication with said second compliant material, which together with said second passage provides for the circulation of said medium.
11. An applicator for creating a lesion in tissue, the applicator comprising:
 - a first rigid or semi-rigid support member,
 - an ultrasonic transducer element mounted to said first support member; and
 - means for varying the distance between the ultrasonic transducer element and a surface of the tissue.

12. The applicator according to Claim 11, further comprising a first passage in communication with said compliant material for infusing a medium to said compliant material, wherein said means for varying the distance between the ultrasonic transducer and the surface of the tissue comprises a compliant material coupled to said support member.
13. The applicator according to Claim 12, further comprising a second passage in communication with said compliant material, which together with said first passage provides for the circulation of said medium.
14. The applicator according to Claim 12 further comprising at least one electrode for conducting energy to the tissue.
15. The applicator according to Claim 14, wherein said electrode is located on the surface of said first compliant material.
16. The applicator according to Claim 14, wherein said electrode is integrated into the surface of said first compliant material.
17. The applicator according to Claim 11 further wherein said means for varying the distance between the

ultrasonic transducer and the surface of the tissue comprises a mechanical means for varying the standoff distance.

18. The applicator according to Claim 17, further comprising an actuating cable operatively connected to said mechanical means and operative to vary said standoff distance.

19. The applicator according to Claim 17 further comprising at least one electrode for conducting energy to the tissue.